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Sian Berry AM Chair, Housing Committee London Assembly The Queen's Walk London SE1 2AA

12 September 2018

Dear Sian,

Thank you very much for your letter. I was delighted to contribute to the Housing Committee's July meeting.

I'm writing to respond to the two follow-up questions.

## 1. The status of Tenant Management Organisations on transferred estates

I was asked what the status of Tenant Management Organisations is on housing estates which are transferred from local authority to housing association ownership. We have discussed this with our legal advisors. The advice we have received is that 'there is no legal right for a TMO to be preserved on a transfer of local authority stock to a new landlord' but that there is no legal barrier to a TMO being maintained. Our understanding is that in many cases TMOs do continue after transfer and Optivo would certainly support their continuation in housing transferred to us.

## 2. Inclusion of socio-economic measures in Equality Impact Assessments

I was asked by Tom Copley AM whether Optivo included a socio-economic dimension in its Equality Impact Assessments and if not, whether we may consider doing so. I have discussed this with colleagues who lead Optivo's work on equality and inclusion. We do not currently include socio-economic status as a formal element of our Equalities Impact Assessments. I have tasked our team with looking into this issue and reporting back to me on our options. You'll appreciate that consideration of this will need to go through our internal decision-making process, so this is something I can update you on at a later date.

I hope that these responses are helpful and thank you again for inviting me to attend to join the Committee's discussion.

Kind regards,

**Paul Hackett** 

Chief Executive of Optivo and Chair of the G15

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